THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) to (c) Funds for development of National Highways are allotted, keeping in view the total cost of works sanctioned, funds already released to the State, progress of execution of works by State PWD, programme of new works depending upon traffic intensity and inter-se priority on all-India basis and total funds available for the purpose. Thus the ratio of kilometrage and funds cannot be taken as a criterion for release of funds.

(d) and (e) Due to paucity of funds, it has not been possible to meet in full the demands of various State Governments including those of Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra. However, there is no discrimination for or against any State in the matter of release of funds for National Highways.

Use of Red Light on Motor Cars of V.I.Ps.

3797. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the list of dignitaries who are entitled to use a Red Light on their cars as provided on the Motor Vehicles Act or otherwise;

(b) whether Government have noticed a number of cars not belonging to or used by the dignitaries in (a) above using the Red lights on cars;

(c) what is being done to crub this unauthorised use of Red Light on cars; and

(d) what is the punishment for such unauthorised use ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) As per Rule 108 of the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, a vehicle carrying high dignitary as specified by the Central Government or the State Government from time to time or a vehicle escorting such vehicle can show a red light to the front. The Central Government has, however, not specified any dignitaries.

(b) to (d) Delhi Police have detected 3 cars using red lights, but not belonging to or used by dignitaries entitled for use of red light in their cars. They were prosecuted under the relevant provisions of the Central Motor Vehicles Act/Rules.

The owner of the motor vehicles having unauthorised red lights are subject to penalties in terms of Section 177 of the Motor Vehicles Act. The penalty extends to Rs. 100/- for the first offence and upto Rs. 300/- for second and subsequent offence. The implementation of these provisions is the responsibility of the State Governments concerned.

Inland Waterways Authority of India

3798. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) what is the present management structure of Inland Waterways Authority of India;

(b) whether it is a fact that Inland Waterways Authority of India is functioning without a Chairman for many months;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) what are the positive development works or policies enunciated during the last four months ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Presently, the Management structure of Inland Waterways Authority of India comprises of a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman a Member (Technical), Member (Finance) and three part-time Members viz. Joint Secretary In-charge of Inland Water Transport, Additional Secretary and Financial Adviser of the Ministry of Surface Transport and Chairman-cum-Managing Director, Central Inland Water Transport Corporation Limited.

(b) and (c) The post of Chairman is lying vacant w.e.f. 29-1-93. Earlier, the incumbent of the post of Chairman was on Medical leave from 19-8-1992.

(d) The following development works and policies have been initiated recently :—

(i) Policy decision has been taken for the development of channel

of 2.0 Metres depth in the Farakka-Patna stretch (460 Kms) also like in the Haldia-Farakka Stretch (560 Kms).

(ii) Collection of data in Patna-Allahabad stretch for planning development works in 9th Plan.

(iii) Setting up of night navigation facilities in Calcutta-Farakka (420 Kms.) stretch and terminal facilities at Calcutta in 8th Plan.

(iv) Development of 2.0 M deep navigation channel in Guwahati-Dibrugarh Stretch (508 Kms) in the 8th Plan.

(v) Setting up of night navigation facilities in Dhubri-Guwahati stretch and terminals at Tezpur and Dibrugarh in the 8th Plan.

(vi) Implementation of the scheme for one year in 1993-94 for providing vessel free of cost initially to prospective IWT entrepreneur with a view to promoting IWT operations in National Waterway (Ganga).

(vii) A proposal has been formulated for providing compensation at the rate of Re. 0.10 per tonne km. moved on river for inland water transport operators for non-availability of night navigation, perfect channel and mechanised handling facilities.

(viii) In connection with the development of the National Waterway-III viz. Kottapuram-Kollam stretch of West Coast Canal and Champakara and Udyogmandal Canals, it has been decided to appoint nodal agencies for land acquisition, environmental clearance and construction supervision.

Allocation of Funds for the Development of Highway in A. P.

3799. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) what are the funds allotted for improvement of highways in Andhra Pradesh during 1993-94; and

(b) whether there is any effort to improve the National Highway between Khammam and Rajahmundry in Andhra Pradesh

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) It is not possible to indicate the allocations for National Highways for all States including Andhra Pradesh till the Demands for Grants for 1993-94 are voted by Parliament.

(b) Road connecting Khammam and Rajahmundry is not a part of National Highway network and as such the Government of Andhra Pradesh are essentially concerned with its improvement.

Development of Jangla-Thali Ranohal Road in Shimla

3800. SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) by when Government propose to start work on the Jangla-Thali-Ranohal road in Shimla which was surveyed by the Himachal Pradesh Public works department;

(b) whether Government are aware of the fact that the construction work of this road has come to stand still for quite a long time and 20-25 villages with this road are facing a lot of difficulties; and

(c) if so, by when the construction work will be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) to (c) Constitutionally, the Government of India are primarily concerned with the roads declared as National Highways only. For all roads other than National Highways, the respective State Governments are essentially concerned in the matter. Since the road in question is forming part of the State road network, the State Government of Himachal Pradesh are, therefore, basically responsible to take care of the requirements indicated in the question.